

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing below is to replace all prior versions, or listings, of claims in the present application.

1. (currently amended): A method for delivering treatment fields, comprising:

identifying a sequence group comprising instructions defining a plurality of fields, at least one of said plurality of fields comprising a photon field and at least one of said plurality of fields comprising an electron field;

determining a type of radiation to be applied in a first field of said sequence group, said type of radiation selected from primary photon radiation and primary electron radiation;

configuring, based at least in part on said type of radiation, a radiation therapy treatment device to deliver said first field; and

delivering said first field.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying, based at least in part on said type of radiation, at least one interlock library, and wherein said configuring further includes configuring said radiation therapy device based at least in part on said at least one interlock library.

5. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said configuring includes:

positioning elements of a photon collimator; and

positioning elements of an electron collimator.

6. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said type of radiation is primary photon radiation, and wherein said configuring further comprises:

partially retracting elements of an electron collimator, and positioning elements of a photon collimator to define said field.

7. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said type of radiation is primary electron radiation, and wherein said configuring further comprises:

partially retracting elements of a photon collimator, and positioning elements of said electron collimator to define said field.

8. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

[[determining whether said sequence group includes a second field;]]

determining a type of radiation to be applied in a [[said]] second field of said sequence group, said type of radiation selected from primary photon radiation and primary electron radiation;

configuring, based at least in part on said type of radiation, said radiation therapy treatment device to deliver said second field; and

delivering said second field.

9. (original): The method of claim 8, wherein said second field and said first field are different types.

10. (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

selecting between a clinical mode and a quality assurance mode; and

storing data regarding said treatment sequence in a patient chart if said clinical mode is selected.

11. (original): The method of claim 10, further comprising:

storing data regarding said treatment sequence in a quality assurance chart if said quality assurance mode is selected.

12. (currently amended): A method for automating the delivery of a plurality of treatment fields, comprising:

identifying a sequence group defining said plurality of treatment fields, at least one of said plurality of treatment fields comprising a photon field and at least one of said plurality of treatment fields comprising an electron field;

determining a type of radiation to be applied in a first of said treatment fields, said type of radiation selected from primary photon radiation and primary electron radiation;

configuring, based at least in part on said type of radiation, a radiation therapy treatment device to deliver said first treatment field; [[and]]

delivering said first treatment field; and

repeating said determining, configuring and delivering until each of said plurality of treatment fields of said sequence group have been delivered.

13. (currently amended): A radiation therapy device, comprising:

a beam source, selectively operated to generate a beam having a beam type selected from a primary photon beam and a primary electron beam;

a beam shaping device, selectively operated to shape said beam; and

a control system coupled to said beam source and said beam shaping device and operable to

identify a treatment sequence group having a plurality of fields, at least one of said plurality of treatment fields comprising a photon field and at least one of said plurality of treatment fields comprising an electron field;

identify a required beam type of each [[field]] of said plurality of fields [[treatment sequence group]]; and

operate said beam shaping device to shape said beam to deliver each of said plurality of fields.

14. (original): The device of claim 13, wherein said beam shaping device includes an electron collimator and a photon collimator.

15. (original): The device of claim 13, wherein said control system is further operable to capture treatment data during delivery of each of said fields.

16. (original): The device of claim 13, wherein said control system is selectively configured in one of a clinical mode and a test mode.

17. (currently amended): An apparatus for delivering treatment fields, comprising:

means for identifying a sequence group comprising instructions defining a plurality of fields, at least one of said plurality of fields comprising a photon field and at least one of said plurality of fields comprising an electron field;

means for determining a type of radiation to be applied in a first field of said sequence group, said type of radiation selected from primary photon radiation and primary electron radiation;

means for configuring, based at least in part on said type of radiation, a radiation therapy treatment device to deliver said first field; and

means for delivering said first field.

18. (original): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said means for configuring comprise a photon collimator and an electron collimator

19. (currently amended): A method for testing delivery of radiation fields, comprising:

identifying a sequence group to be tested the sequence group comprising instructions defining a plurality of fields, at least one of said plurality of fields comprising a photon field and at least one of said plurality of fields comprising an electron field;

identifying an instruction of said sequence group, said instruction defining at least a type of radiation to be applied and a configuration of components of a radiation therapy device;

preventing a beam source of said radiation therapy device from generating said radiation;

configuring components of said radiation therapy device as defined by said instruction; and

repeating said identifying an instruction, said preventing, and said configuring for each instruction of said sequence group.